

Argentine Ant Containment/Eradication

PIERC Project Leader: Lloyd Loope, Ph.D.



Objectives:

- ☆ Develop/refine methodology to contain Argentine Ants (AA) at Haleakala
- ☆ Develop methodology for at least local eradication
- ☆ Pass implementation to Haleakala Res. Mgmt. eventually

Accomplishments:

- ☆ Containment methodology has been refined and prevented AA invasion of ca. 400 acres to date
- ☆ Developed network of contacts re: AA biology and control
- ☆ Testing of promising options for eradication in progress

Significance:

- ☆ No native ants in Hawai'i; AA is only aggressive high-elevation ant present
- ☆ Destructive impact of AA on endemics, including pollinators
- ☆ Silversword/*Dubautia* populations require cross-pollination for seed set